

House Approves Nearly \$36 Million in Childers' Energy & Water Appropriations Requests in Final Bill

October 1, 2009

Washington, DC – Today, the U.S. House of Representatives approved \$35.8 million in appropriations requests submitted by Congressman Travis Childers (D-MS) through passage of the final version of the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill. The legislation allocates funding for four projects that will promote economic development, improve public health and safety, and expand conservation efforts in North Mississippi. Two of these projects will invest in the maintenance of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway and its surroundings.

"I am extremely pleased that this important funding has been included in the final legislation," said Congressman Childers. "It's essential that North Mississippians have access to safe and well-maintained water systems. Along with promoting conservation and public health and safety, today's legislation will ensure that the Tenn-Tom Waterway – a major component of our region's transportation network – is able to meet its full potential in contributing to local economic development."

Below are descriptions of the funding requests approved by the House in the final legislation:

- **\$8,000,000 - Desoto County Regional Utility Authority, Regional Wastewater Program, Corp of Engineers** . The funding would be used for the continuation of completing the authorized wastewater program.
- **\$24,081,000 - Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway, Corp of Engineers Operation and Maintenance** . Funds are vital to the general operation and maintenance of the waterway, which is critical to the economic development of the region.
- **\$2,500,000 - Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway, Wildlife Mitigation Purposes, Corp of Engineers** . Funds will be used to protect and maintain wildlife along the waterway.
- **\$1,200,000- Gulf of Mexico Hydrates Research Consortium, University of Mississippi** . This project is a continuation of the UMS administered Gulf of Mexico Hydrates Research Consortium's efforts to develop and deploy an integrated multi-sensor station on the seafloor of the Gulf of Mexico to provide continuous monitoring of gas hydrates and the gas hydrate stability zone via return of data in near to real time.

A pro-gun, pro-life Mississippian, Congressman Travis Childers (D-MS) represents the First Congressional District in North Mississippi. He is a member of the fiscally conservative Blue Dog Coalition and serves on the House Agriculture and Financial Services Committee. Congressman Childers co-chairs the reestablished bipartisan Congressional Rural Caucus and was appointed to the bipartisan Second Amendment Task Force. For more information, visit www.childers.house.gov

#